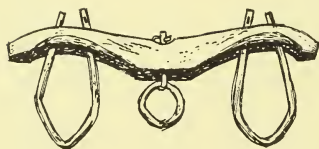


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IN: CIMCO News, Feb. 1955.  
[portraits, biog'l sketches, etc.]

LINCOLN ROOM



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# CIMCO

## *News*

February 1955

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS





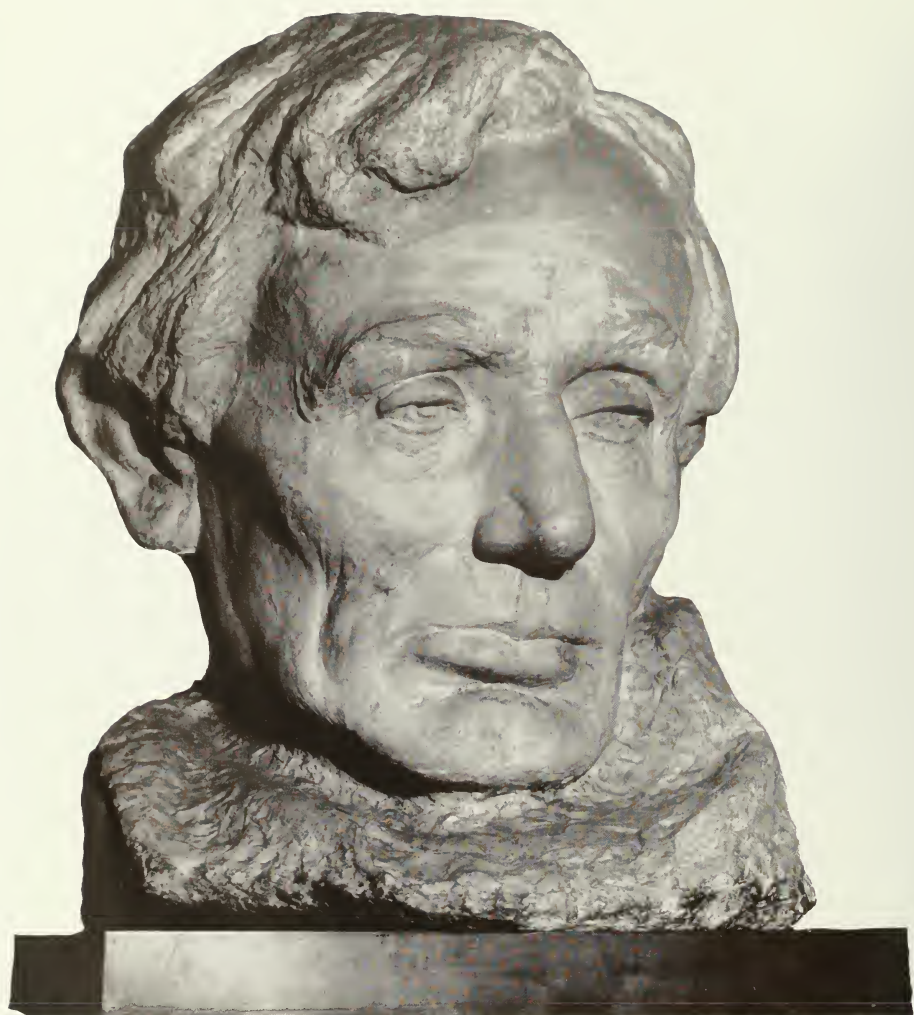
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## *Lincoln for Posterity*

THE lined and bearded Lincoln whose eyes look into man's vast future appears to be a different person from the lanky youth whose flatboat lodged on the dam at New Salem more than thirty-two years earlier. The cover picture of the mature Lincoln was photographed during the period when he was writing his famous Gettysburg Address. But Lincoln, the political philosopher of 1863, still retained much of the youthful Abe, the wrestler, the rail splitter, the surveyor, the fisherman studying Burns, Shakespeare, and Blackstone. Lincoln, the soldier in the Black Hawk War, the arbiter of rough pioneer contests, the postmaster, and keeper of a store across from the tavern where Ann Rutledge lived, knew and understood the common touch. As a country lawyer and political stump speaker or jogging around the circuit in his one-horse shay, he had looked into the voters' faces and fathomed their needs and aspirations. Pioneer years in Illinois gave young Abe the experience, the vision, the sympathy which prompted the mature Lincoln in the cover picture to remind his fellow citizens—including those in arms against the North—that men must not die in vain, that a government of the people, by the people, and for the people should not perish from the earth.

JAY MONAGHAN,  
Consultant, Wyles Collection of  
Lincoliana, Library, University  
of California, Santa Barbara  
College, Santa Barbara.





CHICAGO & ILLINOIS MIDLAND RAILWAY COMPANY

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

F. L. SCHRADER  
PRESIDENT

February 1, 1955

To Midland Employees and Friends:

Because the Village of New Salem, Illinois, is in close proximity to the tracks of the Chicago & Illinois Midland Railway, it was determined a quarter of a century ago that it would be most appropriate for the Midland to picturize the life of Abraham Lincoln during his character building years at and in the vicinity of New Salem.

As a consequence, and after much research and careful and exacting criticism by some of the recognized Lincoln historians of our time, the well-known and homely events in the life of the great American became the subjects of oil paintings produced by several of the leading American artists. Those paintings were used for engraved reproductions which, in turn were printed in four colors through modern methods and distributed to Midland employees and friends in the form of attractive historical calendars.

The scene for each incident or legend was set and specifications for it made by Lincoln authorities. Also, down through the years, those historians were the authors of the title pages which were included as part of the calendar so that the recipients might have a brief authentic story of the event.

Beginning with the subject for the year 1932 and for each year following through 1947, Paul M. Angle, for many years Librarian, Illinois State Historical Library, and lately Secretary and Director, Chicago Historical Society, provided the expert advice as to the settings and prepared the accompanying stories.

For the past eight years Mr. Jay Monaghan, formerly Illinois State Historian, and lately Consultant, Wyles Collection of Lincolniana, Library, University of California, has been the Consultant and prepared the title page which briefly outlined the legend or incident depicted.

Many of the paintings for the earlier subjects were produced by the late Fletcher Ransom, a few were produced by Lane K. Newberry of Chicago, and for the last eight years Reynolds Jones, formerly of Springfield, Illinois, was the artist.

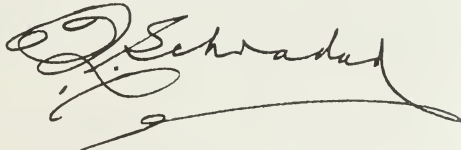
To these men, who have given their knowledge and great ability to the production of a beautiful picturized history of the formative years in the life of Abraham Lincoln, the Midland is most grateful.

The subject of the 1955 offering is "Farewell to Illinois." The painting depicts Lincoln in his leave-taking of his many friends in Springfield, Illinois. The occurrence was on the day before his 52nd birthday. He was leaving to assume the Presidency of the United States and, as he told his fellow townsmen, to take up a "task greater than that which rested upon Washington." Little did those assembled at the rear of the Lincoln train to bid their friend and neighbor "good-by" realize that that was to be the last time his voice would be heard in Springfield.

It seems fitting after twenty-five years that the Lincoln series of paintings be brought to a conclusion with the 1955 issue, "Farewell to Illinois."

The Midland takes pride in the creation of a permanent record, in pictures, of a portion of the life of one who stands as a stalwart symbol of the American way.

Cordially yours,



## Paul M. Angle--Historian



Mr. Angle was born in Mansfield, Ohio, December 25, 1900. He was graduated at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, in 1922 with a degree of A.B. Magna cum laude, and attended the University of Illinois later, receiving a Master of Arts degree in 1924. He has also received honorary degrees from Augustana, Knox, and Illinois Colleges, and is a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

After working for a year as a textbook salesman, he accepted the secretaryship of what was then called the Lincoln Centennial Association and has since become the Abraham Lincoln Association. In 1932 he was appointed Librarian of the Illinois State Historical Library and held that position, and that of State Historian, until 1945, when he became Director and Secretary of the Chicago Historical Society.

Mr. Angle's books include the following: *Mary Lincoln, Wife and Widow*, 1932 (with Carl Sandburg). "*Here I have Lived*": *A History of Lincoln's Springfield*, 1935. *A Shelf of Lincoln Books*, 1946. *The Lincoln Reader*, 1947. (Book-of-the-Month Club selection.) *Bloody Williamson: A Chapter in American Lawlessness*, 1952.

Mr. and Mrs. (Vesta Magee) Angle reside at 1802 Lincoln Park West, Chicago. They have one son, John Edwin, and one daughter, Paula (Mrs. James E. Lovett).

## *Jay Monaghan--Historian*



Jay Monaghan has been associated with the Chicago & Illinois Midland as writer of the legends for the company's annual Lincoln calendar for the last eight years. He was born in West Chester, Pennsylvania, and educated at Swarthmore College and the University of Pennsylvania. As a boy he made frequent trips west to punch cows in Wyoming and Colorado. In World War I he served as an instructor in aerial photography. On being mustered out of the service, he engaged in the range sheep business, summering his flocks in the high Rockies of Colorado and wintering on the Utah deserts. On pack trips from the headquarters ranch to the various camps, he explored the Yampa and Lodore canyons, where he discovered rare cliff houses which are now preserved as a national monument. From books carried on these long rides he began his study of Abraham Lincoln.

In 1939 Jay came to Springfield as editor for the publications of the State Historical Library. One of his early undertakings was to co-operate with the State Department of Public Instruction in a campaign to raise \$60,000, by means of five-cent contributions of

Illinois school children, for the purchase of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. Next he interested William Hurst, then President of the C. & I. M., in financing an expedition to the Islands off Alaska to acquire a rare Lincoln totem pole from the Indians. Both the Gettysburg Address and the totem pole are now on display in the Centennial Building in Springfield. In 1946 Jay became State Historian, in charge of the Library.

At the time of the one-hundredth centennial celebration of the independence of the African republic of Liberia, Jay prepared a Lincoln exhibit to be sent to the Liberian capital. It included a large mural painting, a bronze bust of Lincoln, and several facsimiles of Lincoln letters in the Historical Library which pertained to Liberia, together with exhibit cases for displaying them. Through the influence of C. & I. M. President Fred L. Schrader, a few of the leading businessmen in Springfield arranged to ship this material to Liberia. A year later the Liberian government invited Jay to visit their country and they took him on a safari to the interior. Another year passed and representatives of the Liberian government came to the United States to place an order — said to amount to a million dollars — for heavy machinery to be used for the construction of that country's first railroad. The order was placed in Illinois — the state which had sent the Lincoln tribute.

While Jay was State Historian, he convinced the legislature that the people of Illinois would profit by a wider popularization of the state's history. He succeeded in more than doubling the state's appropriation to the Library, and in addition to editing the regular quarterly historical journal he started a junior magazine for elementary school students. The number of subscribers to these magazines quadrupled in less than five years.

During this period he also published three Lincoln volumes and a pictorial history of Illinois. In the latter book, several pictures illustrate the development of railroads in the state, and the C. & I. M.'s passenger station at Pekin is reproduced. Jay also wrote a book on the Overland Trail, giving special attention to the trails beginning along the Illinois border. In addition, he edited a Civil War soldier's diary, an illustrated volume on old Illinois houses, and a two-volume history of the state's participation in World War II. He also prepared for publication an illustrated book on Illinois' 102 courthouses, and a lengthy transcription of Black Hawk War documents and correspondence.

Three years ago Jay was awarded a Fellowship for a year's research in the Huntington Library at San Marino, California, to use its rare collection for the preparation of a book about the Civil War on the Western border. This volume, now in press, will be published next spring. Jay, in the meantime, has moved to Santa Barbara where he is serving as Consultant for the Wyles Collection of Lincolniana at the University of California's Santa Barbara College.

At the present time, however, Jay is on leave of absence from the University. He has been granted a Fulbright Fellowship for research on the Gold Rush from Australia to California, and has gone to Australia where he will be connected with the University of Sydney for nine months. He and his wife sailed from San Francisco on December 10, visiting the Hawaiian and Fiji Islands and New Zealand enroute to their destination. At the end of their Australian sojourn, the Monaghans plan returning to Santa Barbara by way of India, Arabia, Egypt and Europe.



## Reynolds Jones--Artist



Reynolds Jones has been associated with the Chicago & Illinois Midland Railway Company as the artist in the production of the paintings for the company's annual Lincoln calendar for the last eight years. He was born in Springfield, Illinois, and educated in the Hay Edwards grade school and the High School, both in Springfield, and attended the American Academy of Art in Chicago, Illinois.

After completing his High School education he worked for a short time as window trimmer and show card writer in a Springfield Department Store.

Following the completion of his studies in the American Academy of Art, he handled publicity, promotion and advertising for the Blackhawk Restaurant and the Aragon and Trianon Ballrooms in Chicago. Later he did promotion illustration and display advertising for the Music Corporation of America. The first painting he sold was a portrait of the Orchestra leader, Mr. Hal Kemp, now deceased. When the portrait was delivered to Mr. Kemp he was so pleased with it he paid Mr. Jones double the price they had agreed upon in advance.

From 1934 to 1940 Laddie Jones, as he is familiarly known, maintained his own studio in Chicago. Those years were devoted to advertising illustration and magazine story illustration, including both women's and men's fashion illustration, as well as outdoor adver-

tising for billboards. The "best seller" book, "Doctor, Here's Your Hat," by Dr. Joseph A. Jerger, carried illustrations by Jones.

Strangely enough, as the result of meeting Jimmy Christy, another hopeful artist whose main talent seemed to be boxing, several of the following years were devoted to managing Christy, a contender for the Featherweight Boxing Championship.

In November 1940 Laddie married Bonnie E. Wanless of Springfield. There followed some years of life on a cattle ranch in New Mexico, and then Hollywood and San Fernando Valley for six years. In the meantime the marriage was blessed in 1945 through the birth of a daughter, Sandra Gail. During these years Jones did illustrations and paintings for national advertising campaigns of the Ryan Aeronautical Company, North American Aviation, and a series of horse paintings for Courtley Men's Toiletries.

Being a lover of animal life and the great open spaces, the family moved in 1947 to New Mexico where they established their home at an altitude of seven thousand feet in the Sierra Blanca mountains near Ruidoso.

Subsequently his work took a definite turn to the western influence and, with the exception of the Lincoln paintings, has been almost entirely dedicated to the depiction of cowboy life, wildlife, and paintings of horses, from the rugged cowpony on through to the thoroughbred.

# *Lincoln for Posterity*



On the following pages will be found a review of the paintings and the legends composing the complete Lincoln series of calendars issued by the Chicago & Illinois Midland Railway Company during the years 1932 to 1955, inclusive.

The calendar for 1931 carried a reproduction of a painting of the Lincoln Home in Springfield, Illinois, as shown above.



## Abraham Lincoln

*At New Salem, Illinois*

LATE in July, 1831, Abraham Lincoln, twenty-two years old, uneducated, penniless, settled at New Salem, a small pioneer village twenty miles northwest of Springfield. There he lived until the spring of 1837, supporting himself by a variety of occupations—storekeeper, soldier of the Black Hawk War, postmaster and surveyor. There, in a community which never had a hundred inhabitants, he successfully sought election to the legislature and prepared himself for admission to the bar.

After flourishing for a few years the village of New Salem disintegrated. On its site, now a state park, several of the log cabins in which its citizens lived have been reconstructed, but only one of the original buildings is still standing. That is the cooper shop of Henry Onstot, located at the western limit of the village.

Henry Onstot made casks and barrels. In the process shavings accumulate, and shavings make a fire by which a man hungry for the printed page can read. Such a man was Abraham Lincoln during his residence at New Salem. He studied grammar so that he might write and speak correctly; to earn a living from day to day he learned surveying; to prepare himself for the future he studied law. And, since he worked with an intensity which made the hours of daylight all too short, there were many nights when he lay prone before the fire in the cooper shop, deriving knowledge from the book before him and unconsciously learning the even more important lesson of self-reliance.

Outwardly the Onstot cooper shop is only a relic of a dead village, but in a deeper sense it is the symbol of a man's successful effort to overcome the handicaps of poverty and ignorance.

PAUL M. ANGLE, Secretary,  
The Abraham Lincoln Association.



## *Lincoln and Ann Rutledge*

**F**OR six years—from 1831 to 1837—Abraham Lincoln lived in the little log town of New Salem, Illinois. Penniless at the time of his arrival, he earned a living as clerk, storekeeper, postmaster and surveyor. Uneducated, he studied grammar, mathematics and law. In the Black Hawk War he was elected captain of his company, and then, after one unsuccessful attempt, he was elected to the legislature by the people of Sangamon County.

Important as these achievements were, one episode of Lincoln's life at New Salem throws them all into shadow. That is the tragic story of his courtship of Ann Rutledge.

For a year Lincoln boarded at the home of James Rutledge, one of the founders of the town. Ann, his daughter, was there, but Ann was engaged to a young merchant of the place and Lincoln concealed the admiration he felt for her. Later, however, the merchant left town, and although he had promised to return, letters from him gradually ceased. Then Lincoln made his feelings known, and found to his joy that Ann reciprocated them. The artist, in this picture, has painted what must have been a typical scene of the courtship.

All went well until the summer of 1835, when an epidemic of fever swept the country. Ann Rutledge was one of its victims. So intense was Lincoln's grief that his friends feared for his sanity. Time, however, brought back health, though the sweet, fresh memory of Ann Rutledge always remained with him.

PAUL M. ANGLE,  
Librarian, Illinois State Historical  
Library.





## *Lincoln at New Salem, Illinois*

1834

TWO miles southeast of Petersburg, Illinois, the Sangamon River makes a sweeping bend at the foot of a high bluff. On this bluff, a century ago, stood the pioneer village of New Salem. Today, after decades of desertion, the village stands again, its log cabins rebuilt and its original surroundings restored by the State of Illinois.

For here, from 1831 to 1837, lived Abraham Lincoln, who, though he came to the town as an obscure youth, had the courage to run for election to the state legislature within a year of his arrival. Defeated, he made a second attempt two years later. This time he succeeded.

In that summer of 1834—the year of Lincoln's second campaign—the residents of New Salem may well have become familiar with the scene which the artist, with vivid historical imagination, has presented here—a picture of Lincoln, about to ride away to lay his case before the voters of the county; saying farewell to Ann Rutledge.

PAUL M. ANGLE, Librarian,  
Illinois State Historical Library.



## Lincoln, the Student

BY HIS own statement, when Abraham Lincoln settled at New Salem in 1831 he could "read, write and cipher to the rule of three, but that was all." Probably most of his neighbors were no better educated, but Lincoln differed from them in that he soon set out to make up his deficiencies. Within a year he was studying grammar. Twelve months later he was hard at work on trigonometry and surveying. In 1834, encouraged by John T. Stuart, he commenced the study of law, often walking to Springfield to borrow Stuart's copies of Blackstone, Kent, Chitty and other legal classics. By 1837, when he left New Salem, he was grounded in the fundamentals of the English language, he knew the elements of mathematics, and he was equipped to enter one of the learned professions.

Necessarily, at New Salem Lincoln spent much of his time in study. In the accompanying picture the artist has depicted what must have been a frequent scene—Lincoln so deeply absorbed in his books as to be oblivious of the laughter of the loungers in front of Samuel Hill's store or the gossip of the women across the street at Hill's home. In the distance one sees the building where Lincoln himself tried storekeeping and failed; in the right foreground is the home of Peter Lukins, the village shoemaker. All of these structures have been restored and furnished as they were in the days of Lincoln's residence at New Salem.

PAUL M. ANGLE, Librarian,  
Illinois State Historical Library.



## Lincoln, *the Rail Splitter*

IN THE spring of 1860 the Republicans of Illinois were meeting at Decatur. Suddenly, on the floor of the convention, an old man appeared with two fence rails which supported a banner inscribed: "Abraham Lincoln—the Rail Candidate for President in 1860." Then and there, amid wild cheers, Lincoln became the "Rail-Splitter." Throughout the campaign, and long afterward, the sobriquet clung to him.

Nor was it inappropriate. As a youth in Indiana and Illinois Lincoln had split rails, thousands of them, and his great strength made him unusually proficient at the task. Even at New Salem, where he lived from 1831 to 1837, he occasionally "hired out" as a farm laborer and engaged in this commonest of frontier occupations. Thus the artist has pictured him, swinging his maul on the banks of the winding Sangamon in the cool dawn of a summer day. Doubtless he was grateful for the end of the day, and certainly he had no suspicion that the task at which he worked would one day furnish a meaningful symbol to millions of his fellow citizens.

PAUL M. ANGLE, Librarian,  
Illinois State Historical Library.



## Lincoln, *the Surveyor*

A LITTLE more than a century ago—in February, 1836, a young man known for his honesty, his great height, and his cleverness at story-telling, spent several days surveying a tiny village in Central Illinois. Finishing his work, he drew a careful plat, labeled it the resurvey of Petersburg, February 17, 1836, and signed his name: "A. Lincoln."

For three years jobs of that sort had been Lincoln's chief means of support. In 1833, after his venture in store-keeping had ended in disaster and debt, John Calhoun, the surveyor of Sangamon County, had come to his rescue by appointing him his deputy and assigning him the northern part of the county (now Menard County) as his field. Calhoun's successor retained him in office, with the result that until his removal from New Salem to Springfield, Lincoln with rod and chain was a familiar figure to hundreds of Illinois settlers.

Lincoln's resurvey of Petersburg gave rise to an incident which local tradition still cherishes, and which the artist has pictured here. Living in the little town was Jemimah Elmore, the widow of an old friend who had served in Lincoln's company in the Black Hawk War. Part of her house, Lincoln found, would be in a street if the streets were run due north and south. Sooner or later it would have to be removed, and that would cost more money than she could afford. But if his compass were set one degree off north and south, the house could be saved. And so today, because of the Widow Elmore and Lincoln's consideration for her, the streets of Petersburg deviate one degree from the cardinal points of the compass.

In the artist's portrayal of Lincoln, the Surveyor, presented here the surveying instruments, known as a circumferator and Jacob's staff, were drawn from Lincoln's original instruments now in possession of the State of Illinois

PAUL M. ANGLE, Librarian,  
Illinois State Historical Library



## Lincoln, the Wrestler

**I**N THE summer of 1831 the little frontier town of New Salem gained a new resident. His name was Abraham Lincoln, and he came to work in a general store which Denton Offut, with whom he had just made a flat-boat trip to New Orleans, was establishing in the village.

The people of New Salem had a habit of putting newcomers to the test, especially when their employers bragged of their strength, as Offut bragged of Lincoln. So a wrestling match with Jack Armstrong of nearby Clary's Grove, champion of the neighborhood, was arranged. The town turned out to see the fun, and bets of all sorts were placed on the contestants. Like so much of the past, the outcome of the match is hidden in the haze of uncertainty; but whether Lincoln threw Armstrong, as some say, or whether the contest ended in a draw, as others maintain, this at least is certain: the men were ever afterward bound together by the strongest ties of friendship. Jack Armstrong supported Lincoln in every venture of his New Salem days, while the measure of Lincoln's affection may be found in the fact that many years afterward, when one of Jack's sons was charged with murder, Lincoln volunteered to defend him and successfully cleared his name.

PAUL M. ANGLE,  
Illinois State Historical Librarian.





## *Pioneer Education*

**N**EAR the little city of Petersburg, Illinois, stands the restored village of New Salem—rebuilt by the State of Illinois because it was the home of Abraham Lincoln from 1831 until 1837.

In the entire village, now nearly completed, only one original structure is to be found. That is the cooper shop of Henry Onstot, luckily preserved as a part of a dwelling in Petersburg, and replaced on its former site a few years ago. There an informed visitor may see in his mind's eye the scene which the artist has depicted here—a bronzed young giant in homespun absorbed in the pages of a book which he reads by the light of the cooper's blazing chips and shavings. For at New Salem Lincoln was preeminently the student, studying grammar so that he might write and speak clearly, surveying in order to earn a day-to-day living, and the law to qualify himself for a profession. The Onstot cooper shop is a weatherbeaten structure with the marks of its age upon it, but it symbolizes, as no imposing memorial could symbolize, a man's ability to overcome the handicaps of poverty and ignorance.

PAUL M. ANGLE, Librarian,  
Illinois State Historical Library.



## *Lincoln, the Soldier*

WHEN the Black Hawk War broke out in the spring of 1832, young Abraham Lincoln was clerking in a store at New Salem, Illinois. The business was failing and he knew it, so he joined a company of mounted volunteers. To his surprise, he was elected captain. Twenty-eight years later, after he had been nominated for the Presidency of the United States, he wrote that he had "not since had any success in life which gave him so much satisfaction" as this honor.

After five weeks Lincoln's company was disbanded, whereupon he re-enlisted as a private. In this capacity he served until the war ended. He saw no action, and in later years he often made light of his military service. Nevertheless, the war gave him valuable experience and broadened his horizons measurably. There is reason to think, moreover, that beneath the surface he was proud of his record. When bounty lands were awarded to Black Hawk War Veterans he located both his warrants, and he once told his law partner that he would hold the tracts as long as he lived, no matter how unproductive they might turn out to be.

In the accompanying painting the artist depicts the people of New Salem mingling cheers and farewells as Lincoln and some of his men leave for the campaign.

PAUL M. ANGLE, Librarian,  
Illinois State Historical Library



## Pioneer Transportation

**I**N THE spring of 1831 Abraham Lincoln, twenty-two years old and free from family obligations, began life on his own responsibility. His first venture was a flatboat trip to New Orleans as the hired hand of a backwoods promoter, Denton Offut by name. Lincoln, with Offut and two others, built the boat on the Sangamon River near Springfield, loaded it with produce, and launched it on the spring-swollen stream.

Twenty miles distant, at the little village of New Salem, a mill dam obstructed the river. There, half-over, the flatboat stranded. Water splashed into the stern, and pessimists among the villagers on the river bank predicted that it would soon sink.

But one member of the crew—notably long, angular and awkward—had no intention of allowing the boat to founder. Under his orders the stern was unloaded until the craft righted itself. Then, with the village cooper's auger a hole was bored in the bow and the water allowed to run out. Next, the hole was plugged and the balance of the cargo unloaded. Relieved of the weight of water and load, the boat slid easily over the dam. The cargo was reloaded, and the voyage continued.

Three months later Abraham Lincoln walked into New Salem, where he was to make his home for six years, and found himself locally famous as the man who had saved Denton Offut's flatboat from what had looked like certain destruction.

PAUL M. ANGLE, Librarian,  
Illinois State Historical Library.





## Postmaster Lincoln

FOR THREE of the six years of his residence at New Salem, Abraham Lincoln was the village postmaster. It was not a burdensome occupation, for mail was delivered to the little settlement overlooking the Sangamon only twice a week. Still, the small remuneration helped, and the position gave him an opportunity to read many newspapers which he would not have seen otherwise.

As postmaster, Lincoln went out of his way to accommodate his patrons. When he went on a surveying expedition he made it a point to put all the letters addressed to the people of the neighborhood into his hat and distribute them along the way, regardless of the fact that the free delivery of mail was not then a post office function. On occasion, too, he would make special trips, often walking miles to deliver a letter which he knew to be impatiently awaited. Kindnesses like these were an expression of his own friendly nature, but they made him New Salem's most popular citizen and contributed to the respect and affection in which he was held throughout the countryside.

PAUL M. ANGLE, Librarian,  
Illinois State Historical Library,  
Springfield, Illinois.



## Lincoln, the Lawyer

**I**N 1834, after he had been a resident of New Salem, Illinois, for three years, Abraham Lincoln began to study law. In the eyes of many of his friends and neighbors, the mere fact that he was a law student qualified him to draw mortgages and deeds, and even to try minor cases, although such unlicensed practicing was then, as now, illegal.

In this painting the artist has pictured one of Lincoln's early trials which came to grief. In dispute was the ownership of a hog. Lincoln's clients were the Trent Brothers; the defendant was his good friend Jack Kelso. Holding the scales of justice was Bowling Green, the corpulent justice of the peace of New Salem. At the trial Lincoln introduced three witnesses who swore that the hog belonged to the Trents, but Kelso had no one to support his claim. The justice of the peace, nevertheless, awarded the hog to Kelso. When Lincoln protested that the verdict was against the preponderance of evidence, Green delivered a little homily which the aspiring youth probably never forgot. "Abe," he said, "the first duty of a court is to decide cases justly and in accordance with the truth. I know that shoat myself, and I know it belongs to Kelso and that the plaintiffs and their witnesses lied!"

PAUL M. ANGLE,  
Illinois State Historical Library.



## Lincoln, *the Arbiter*

SPORTS as we know them—baseball, football, bowling, golf—were far in the future when Abraham Lincoln lived in the little frontier town of New Salem, Illinois. Nevertheless, the pioneer had his amusements. House raisings, husking bees, and wedding dances broke the monotony of life for early settlers and their families, while the men often found pleasure in such sports as wrestling, horse racing, and shooting for a beef.

In the latter class—"for men only"—was gander pulling, which the artist has depicted here. The neck of a gander was greased, and then the bird was hung head down from a projecting limb. The horseman who could ride by at full speed and pull off the gander's head won both the contest and the gander.

At New Salem, where he lived from 1831 to 1837, Lincoln was famed as a wrestler, but in other sports he was more often found as judge or umpire than as participant. His neighbors knew him to be honest, fair, and cool-headed, and he was their unanimous choice for this most hazardous of occupations. Thus early were manifest qualities which the American people were later to recognize and trust.

PAUL M. ANGLE, Librarian,  
Illinois State Historical Library.



## Lincoln, the Thinker

**Y**EARS afterward, when Lincoln's old New Salem neighbors recalled what they could of his life in the frontier village on the Sangamon River, one of the characteristics most vividly registered in their memories was his love of books and study. They remembered the long nights he spent with Mentor Graham hard at work on grammar and mathematics; they remembered his absorption in Blackstone; they remembered how time after time he walked to Springfield and back again to borrow the other books he needed in his preparation for the law.

They remembered, too, their own wonderment at this passion for knowledge, and they recalled with relish the interchange between Lincoln and Squire Godbey when the latter found the lanky student stretched out with a book before his eyes. "What are you reading, Abe?" Godbey had asked. "I'm not reading—I'm studying," was the answer. "Studying what?" "Law," said Lincoln. "Good God Almighty!" was the only comment Godbey could think of as he stalked away.

But Lincoln's friends remembered that he read with a difference. Said one of them: "He read very thoroughly, and had a most wonderful memory." Another recalled that he would walk along the village street with a book under his arm, stop, read a page or two, and then move on, immersed in reflection upon what he had just read. Lincoln, this old neighbor said, "seemed invariably to reflect and deliberate, never acted from impulse so far as to arrive at a wrong conclusion on a subject of any moment."

What these men sensed thus early was Lincoln's power of thought. Even as a resident of New Salem he did not accept without question what he read. Instead, it was material for his strong, original mind to work with—to turn over, modify, perhaps reject. He had discovered, as few men do, that in his own mind he possessed an instrument for arriving at truth, and even in youth he was using it. Later, in maturity, he would come to rely upon it to such an extent that his law partner could say of him, with superficial exaggeration but basic accuracy: "He read less and thought more than any man in his sphere in America."

PAUL M. ANGLE,  
Illinois State Historical Library.



## Pioneer Industry

### LINCOLN AND THE NEW SALEM CARDING MACHINE

NEW SALEM, where Lincoln lived from 1831 until 1837, was not only a village of pioneer homes; it was also an aggregation of pioneer industries. Within its limits were a grist mill and sawmill, a tannery, a cooper's shop, a carding machine, and several stores. One man made felt from fur and fashioned it into hats, a shoemaker shod the villagers, the blacksmith forged all kinds of household articles. In every home there was a spinning wheel, and some had looms. In a word, New Salem could supply most of its modest wants from its own resources.

To the present-day observer, no establishment in the restored village is more interesting than the carding machine; and probably none made a stronger appeal to the mechanical bent of Abraham Lincoln. Power was supplied by ox which trod upon a large round platform set at an angle. The ox got nowhere, but he kept moving the platform round and round. The power, thus generated, was transmitted by a series of wooden gears and shafts to the cards which combed out the tangled fibres of the wool. Later it would be spun into thread and woven into cloth to warm the residents of New Salem against the raw winter winds.

The carding machine was one of the enterprises of Samuel Hill, New Salem storekeeper and friend of Lincoln. Perhaps, in the picture on this calendar, Lincoln is on his way to feed the ox, or to turn it out to grass at Hill's request. Perhaps he sees an audience that will appreciate one of his inimitable stories. The incident is imaginary, but from what we know of Lincoln and New Salem, we can be certain that something like it happened many times during his residence there.

PAUL M. ANGLE,  
Illinois State Historical Library





## Romance

DID Abraham Lincoln and Ann Rutledge, sitting before the great fireplace in the Rutledge Tavern at New Salem, see the promise of happiness in each other's eyes? Did they look forward to the time when Ann should be released from her engagement to John McNamar, long absent from the village, and be free to avow her love for the awkward, hesitant postmaster and storekeeper who had slowly but surely come to hold first place in her affections? Did they plan their life together after she should have attended the young women's seminary at Jacksonville, and after he should have won the license to practice law for which he was studying? Did Ann's death, coming with stunning suddenness in the summer of 1835, leave a wound from which Lincoln, with a heart tender as spring blossoms, was years in recovering?

Historians, skeptical of all that cannot be proved by their beloved documents, answer "Perhaps" to questions like these, but in the minds of the American people there are no reservations. To them the romance of Lincoln and Ann Rutledge is not only historical fact; it is also one of the most cherished episodes in the national past. And who can say, with certainty, that they are wrong?

PAUL M. ANGLE,  
Chicago Historical Society.



## *Lincoln, the Campaigner*

**A**T NEW SALEM, flatboatman Lincoln learned how to get and hold the confidence of the people. In his first campaign for the legislature in 1832 he was defeated but he carried his own New Salem precinct with a vote of 300 to 277. This was the only time, Lincoln said later, that he was ever defeated by a direct vote of the people. In 1834 he was a candidate once more and this time he won. Thereafter he was re-elected three times, then refused further nomination in order that he might build up his law practice and prepare his way for election to Congress. As a politician, stumping the country towns, Lincoln had learned that a successful idealist must be practical. To lead the people he must know the people. To enact a legislative program he must employ skill and compromise. With his feet always squarely on the ground, Lincoln proved by his own example that a great politician is also a great statesman.

J. MONAGHAN, State Historian,  
State of Illinois.



## *Goin' Fishin'*

**J**ACK KELSO liked to fish, and to read and recite Robert Burns and Shakespeare. With him Lincoln found "sermons in stones, books in the running brooks, and good in everything." Kelso's house (in the background) was the only duplex in New Salem. He and his wife occupied the left hand cabin. His wife's sister, Mrs. Joshua Miller, had married the blacksmith and they lived next door, across the "dog trot."

J. MONAGHAN, Historian,  
State of Illinois.





## *Lincoln, the Pilot*

**A**FTER two flatboat trips to New Orleans, twenty-two year old Abe Lincoln qualified as a riverman. Early in the spring of 1832 he helped pilot the "Talisman" almost a hundred miles up the Illinois and Sangamon Rivers from Beardstown to within six miles of Springfield. Long-handled axes were necessary for cutting overhanging limbs. The steamboat tied up at New Salem to unload cargo and Lincoln conversed with old friends.

The "Talisman" was a 150-ton, upper cabin steamer approximately 136 feet long, with a beam of 48 feet. At Portland Landing, her destination near Springfield, the "Talisman" could not turn around in the narrow river. Crewmen steered her backward for some distance downstream. Gravel bars obstructed the channel; low water after the spring freshet barely floated her to the Illinois River. The owners never risked another trip.

For his work aboard the "Talisman" Lincoln received \$40 and some good experience which may have helped him years later to pilot the ship of state.

J. MONAGHAN,  
State Historian of Illinois.



## Lincoln and Mary Owens

A YEAR after Ann Rutledge's death in 1835, Lincoln had a love affair with Mary Owens, a Kentuckian. He was twenty-seven, she twenty-eight. In fun, Lincoln promised her sister to marry Mary if she would come to New Salem but he was shocked at her arrival. To a friend he wrote, "When I beheld her, I could not for my life avoid thinking of my mother; from her want of teeth, weather-beaten appearance in general, and from a kind of notion that ran in my head that *nothing* could have commenced at the size of infancy, and reached her present bulk in less than thirty-five or forty years." Abiding by his promise, Lincoln proposed, but to the amazement Mary Owens turned him down, not once but again and again. Finally Lincoln confessed confidentially: "Others have been made fools of by the girls; but this can never be with truth said of me — I most emphatically, in this instance, made a fool of myself."

J. MONAGHAN,  
State Historian of Illinois.



## *Lincoln, the Circuit Rider*

**A**BRAHAM LINCOLN, prominent country lawyer, sawed his own wood, milked his cow, and curried his horse. Many months each year he lived away from home attending court throughout the Eighth Judicial Circuit. He learned to know the people, to call them by their first names, and to listen to their problems. Farmers trusted the plain man who jogged along Illinois' dirt roads in a one-hoss shay, who took time to ask about the crops, the children, the price of hogs, and the best man to send to Congress.

J. MONAGHAN,  
Springfield, Illinois.



## Abraham Lincoln, Candidate

IN 1858 the members of the Illinois General Assembly appraised Abraham Lincoln with critical eyes. On them rested the duty of electing a United States Senator, and Lincoln had been nominated by the Republican State Central Committee for the post. The legislators had watched him grow from a rail-splitting flatboatman to a leading lawyer. Their assembly hall of that day is now the Sangamon County Courthouse in Springfield, Illinois, and the old legislative chamber shown in this picture is still in use as the Circuit Court Room. It was in the atmosphere and the now famous room here pictured, that Lincoln accepted, on the evening of June 16, 1858, the Republican nomination with a speech that electrified the nation. "A house divided against itself cannot stand," he quoted from the Bible, and added, "I believe this government cannot endure permanently half slave and half free. I do not expect the house to fall — but I do expect it will cease to be divided." These words are the basis of Lincoln's immortality.

JAY MONAGHAN,  
Historian.



## *Lincoln, for President*

**A**T EIGHT O'CLOCK on the evening of May 19, 1860, a committee from the recent Republican National Convention called at Lincoln's Springfield home to notify him that he had been nominated for the Presidency of the United States. Many of the committeemen had preferred a different candidate so they watched the awkward, prairie lawyer critically. The chairman, George Ashmun from Massachusetts, handed Lincoln an official letter of notification and recited a short speech. When he had finished, Lincoln raised his head to reply. The delegates watched his solemn, cadaverous face light with intelligence and strength. They saw at once that this downstate politician was master of any situation and — better still — of himself. Walking away from Lincoln's home, two of the committeemen who had originally voted against the Rail Splitter compared impressions of the candidate and admitted their earlier mistake. Pennsylvania's representative, Judge W. D. ("Pig Iron") Kelley, said to Carl Schurz, Wisconsin German: "We could certainly not have done a better thing." Posterity agrees!

JAY MONAGHAN,  
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## *Farewell to Illinois*

ON THE DAY before his fifty-second birthday, Abraham Lincoln left Springfield for Washington. Among the comparatively unknown friends and small military escort accompanying him were a country judge who later served as a Justice of the Supreme Court, and a young man who would become Ambassador to Great Britain and also Secretary of State. Three of the soldiers were destined to be major generals. Two others would die in battle. Lincoln, himself, had trudged into Springfield thirty years before, a "hired hand" making \$12.00 per month. Now he was leaving to assume the Presidency of the United States. America was drifting unmistakably into a civil war. One section of the country believed that some men should be chained permanently as laborers while others should control all the capital. Lincoln believed that every man should have the opportunity to become a capitalist through his own industry and initiative. On this issue the first great experiment in democracy was to be tested. The "task before me," Lincoln told his fellow townsmen as he stood on the rear platform of the departing train, "is greater than that which rested upon Washington. Without the assistance of that Divine Being who ever attended him, I cannot succeed. With that assistance, I cannot fail." This was the last time Lincoln's voice was heard in Springfield.

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